

1 This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings:
2

3 **Listing of Claims:**
4

5 **1-15.** (canceled)
6

7 **16.** (currently amended) A method, comprising:

8 determining [[a]] an absolute location of a computing unit, wherein the act
9 of determining the absolute location comprises receiving RF signals from a
10 plurality of RF beacons having known locations and using environmental profiling
11 to establish the absolute location of the computing unit;

12 periodically transmitting, from the computing unit, the absolute location of
13 the computing unit to a network server together with a user name of a user using
14 the computing unit; and

15 including an active signal with the periodically transmitted information
16 when the user is actively using the computing unit.
17

18 **17.** (original) The method as recited in claim 16, wherein:

19 the computing unit is a mobile computing unit; and

20 the network server is a wireless network server.
21

22 **18.** (original) The method as recited in claim 16, further comprising
23 time-stamping the transmission to the network server and transmitting the time
24 stamp with the transmitted information.
25

1 **19-24.** (canceled)

2
3 **25.** (original) The method as recited in claim 16, wherein the user
4 actively using the computing unit further comprises the user having used the
5 computing unit within a pre-defined time period.

6
7 **26.** (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 16, wherein the
8 periodically transmitting the absolute location of the computer unit to a network
9 server only occurs upon a request from the network server for the computer unit to
10 update the absolute location of the computer unit.

11
12 **27.** (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 16, further
13 comprising encrypting the absolute location of the computing unit prior to
14 transmitting the absolute location of the computing unit to the network server.

15
16 **28-44.** (canceled)

1 **45.** (currently amended) A mobile computing unit, comprising:
2 memory;
3 a wireless network interface configured to connect the mobile computing
4 unit to multiple wireless access points of one or more remote servers;
5 a location tracking service configured to determine [[a]] an absolute
6 location of the mobile computer unit utilizing a radio frequency system capable of
7 determining the absolute location by detecting signals transmitted from multiple
8 wireless access points; and
9 a location manager configured to periodically transmit the absolute location
10 of the mobile computing unit to one or more of the remote servers via the wireless
11 network interface.

12
13 **46.** (currently amended) The mobile computing unit as recited in claim
14 45, wherein the location manager is further configured to transmit a user name of a
15 user logged onto the mobile computing unit to one or more of the remote servers
16 together with the absolute location of the mobile computing unit.

17
18 **47.** (currently amended) The mobile computing unit as recited in claim
19 45, wherein the location manager is further configured to transmit an active signal
20 to one or more of the remote servers together with the absolute location of the
21 mobile computing unit when a user logged onto the mobile computing unit has
22 actively used the unit within a specified period of time.

1 **48.** (original) The mobile computing unit as recited in claim 45, further
2 comprising a clock, and wherein the location manager is further configured to
3 time-stamp the transmission of the location information with a time that the
4 transmission is sent.

5
6 **49.** (currently amended) The mobile computing unit as recited in claim
7 45, wherein the location manager identifies and transmits the absolute location of a
8 network node with which the mobile computing unit is communicating as the
9 absolute location of the mobile computing unit.

10
11 **50.** (previously presented) The mobile computing unit as recited in
12 claim 45, wherein the location manager is configured to invoke the location
13 tracking service when commanded to do so by a second computing unit or one or
14 more of the remote servers.

15
16 **51.** (canceled)

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18 **52.** (canceled)

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20 **53.** (canceled)

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22 **54.** (currently amended) The mobile computing unit as recited in claim
23 45, wherein the location manager is further configured to encrypt the absolute
24 location of the mobile computing unit before transmitting the absolute location of
25 the mobile computing unit to one or more of the remote servers.

1 **55-62.** (canceled)

2
3 **63.** (currently amended) A method comprising:

4 receiving radio frequency transmissions emitted from a plurality of radio
5 frequency base stations of a wireless local area network;

6 measuring relative strengths of the radio frequency transmissions;

7 determining ~~[[a]]~~ an absolute location of a mobile computing device based
8 on the relative strengths;

9 identifying the absolute location of the mobile computing device as that of a
10 computer user;

11 receiving a request for the absolute location of the computer user from a
12 computing unit; and

13 transmitting the absolute location of the computer user to the computing
14 unit.

15
16 **64.** (currently amended) The method of claim 63, wherein the acts of
17 receiving the radio frequency transmissions, measuring the relative strengths, and
18 determining the absolute location are performed by the mobile computing device.

19
20 **65.** (currently amended) The method of claim 63, wherein the act of
21 identifying the absolute location of the mobile computing device as that of the
22 computer user comprises receiving from the mobile computing device an identifier
23 associated with the computer user.
24
25

1 **66.** (currently amended) The method of claim 63, wherein the act of
2 identifying the absolute location of the mobile computing device as that of the
3 computer user comprises calculating a time differential between a time stamp
4 associated with the absolute location of the mobile computing device and a current
5 time, comparing the time differential with a predetermined time threshold, and
6 defining the absolute location of the mobile computing device as that of the
7 computer user if the time differential is less than the time threshold.

8
9 **67.** (currently amended) The method of claim 63, further comprising:
10 receiving an active signal indicating that the computer user has actively
11 used the mobile computing device within a specified period of time, and wherein
12 the act of identifying the absolute location comprises defining the absolute location
13 of the mobile computing device as that of the computer user if the active signal has
14 been received within a predetermined period of time.